ORIGINAL

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FX PARTE OR LATE FILED



September 8, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 – 12th Street, SW Room: TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 98-205

RECEIVED

SEP 0 8 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Ms. Salas:

Today, the attached e-mail correspondence and attachment was sent to Kathy Brown, Chief of Staff to Chairman Kennard, regarding the Commission's review of its spectrum aggregation limits. Please include a copy of this ex parte communication in the record for the above captioned proceeding. If you have any questions, you may call me on (202) 336-7873.

Jan Ruthy

Attachment

No. of Copies resid OLL



To:

kbrown@fcc.gov

cc:

Subject:

WT Docket 98-205

----- Forwarded by Donald Brittingham on 09/08/99 04:49 PM -----



Donald Brittingham 09/08/99 04:45 PM

To:

kbrown@fcc.gov

cc: Subject:

WT Docket 98-205

I'm sorry we were unable to hook up today, and I fear we may miss each other before the sunshine on WT 98-205. I hope this brief e-mail adequately conveys Bell Atlantic's concerns about the pending action in the Spectrum Cap proceeding.

Bell Atlantic urges the Commission to grant immediate relief from the 45 MHz CMRS spectrum aggregation limit. The current limit will have a very real and serious effect on Bell Atlantic Mobile's ability to deliver wireless services in the future. Based on our current projections, our spectrum needs in some markets will exceed 45 MHz sometime in the year 2003. Given the 3 year planning cycle required to acquire new spectrum and buildout systems, a wait-and-see approach by the Commission is not at all helpful.

BAM has seen enormous growth on its cellular networks in the past several years. While subscribership continues to grow at a healthy pace, network usage has doubled year-over-year for the past two years. Our customers are using wireless services more than ever before. As we focus on wireless data and landline substitution offerings in the future, we will see even greater pressure on our spectrum capacity.

BAM's ability to satisfy future demand under the spectrum cap is constrained by the large base of analog customers it must continue to serve. Even as customers migrate to digital service, this embedded base of analog customers is expected to remain large for the foreseeable future. Moreover, cellular carriers are required to serve analog customers under the Commission's rules — a requirement that does not extend to PCS operators. This "analog penalty" accelerates the cellular carrier's need for additional spectrum in advance of the needs of most PCS operators. The Commission should provide immediate relief from the spectrum cap to promote wireless-landline competition and the availability of future data services, including 3G.

Thanks for your consideration.

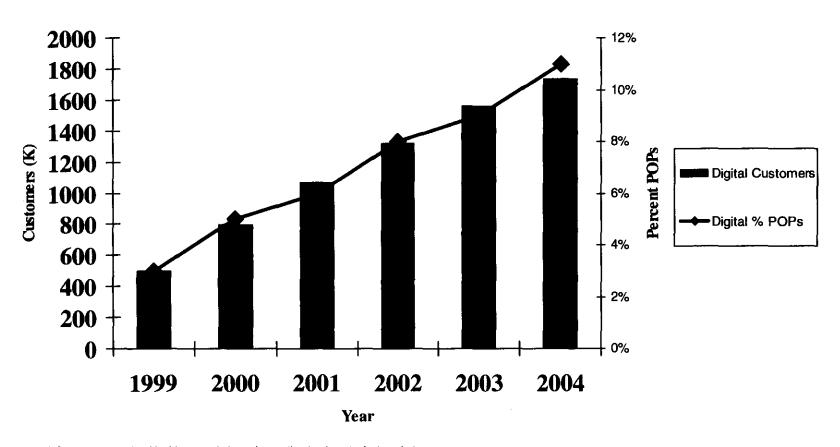
Don Brittingham Director - Bell Atlantic 202-336-7873



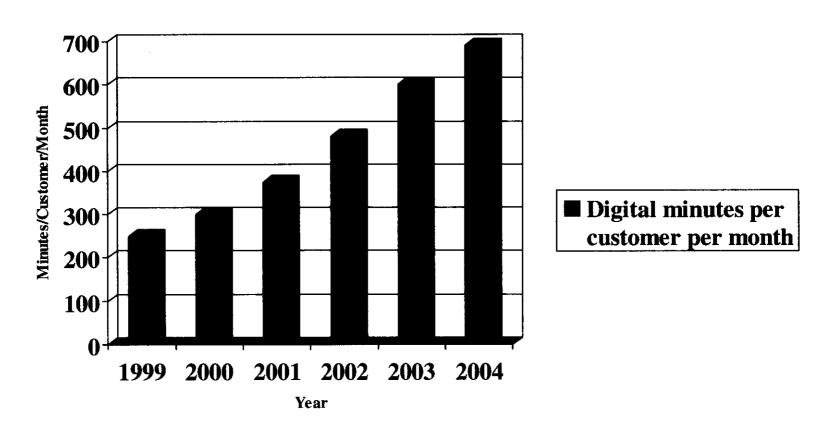
45MHz Spectrum Cap

- Cellular License, 25 MHz of Spectrum
 - Analog + CDPD
 - 6 CDMA carriers
- Two 10 MHz PCS Licenses
 - 3 CDMA carriers in each 10 MHz of PCS Spectrum
- 45 MHz limits the service provider to 12 CDMA carriers

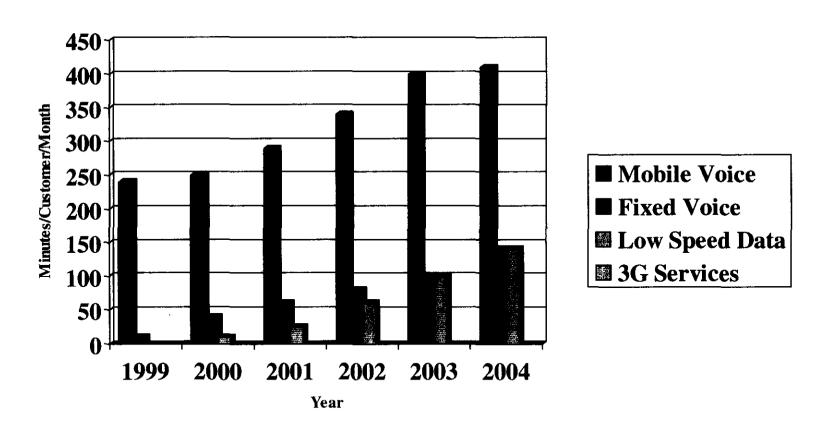
Typical City - Projected Customer Growth



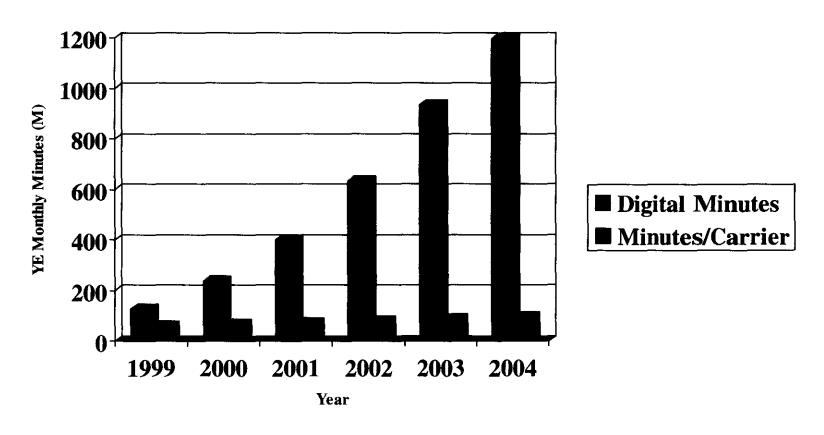
Typical City - Projected Minutes/Customer



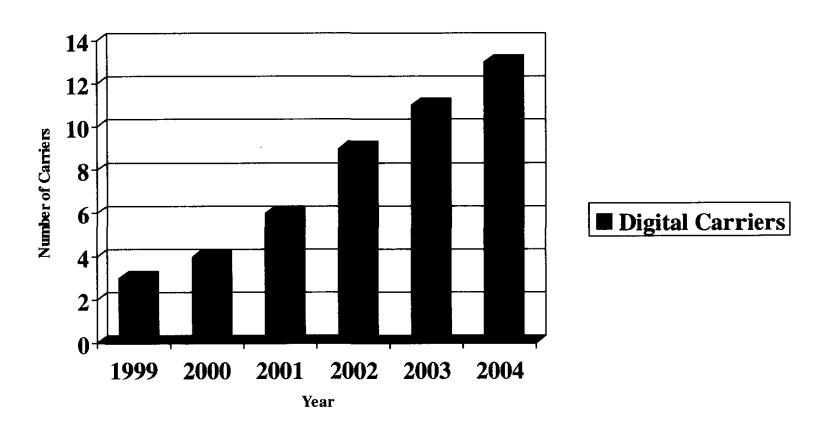
Break Down of Projected Minutes/Customer



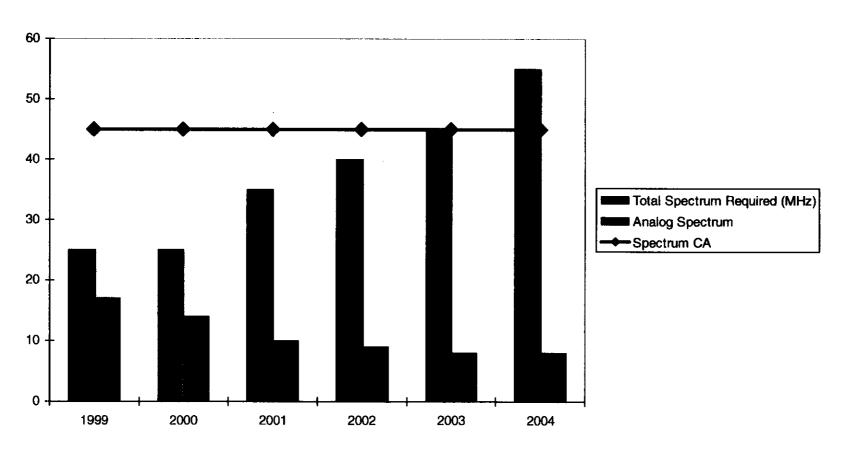
Typical City - Total Projected Digital Minutes



Typical City - Digital Carriers Required



Typical City - Spectrum Required



Conclusions

- Spectrum caps do not provide carriers with the ability to satisfy the demand for wireless services.
 - Wireless local loop/land line displacement
 - High volumes of low speed data
 - High speed data
 - 3G services